and it will be seen that sharp corners as shown at 13 are produced at the edges of this groove. When the coating 14 of paint, lacquer, enamel, or other coating material is applied to the surface of the wall board it will be seen that very little if any of the coating material adheres to these sharp corners because of the nature of any liquid to shy away from a sharp corner. When such weak corners of a wall board are exposed to a considerable amount of steam, vapor or water from a shower bath or the like around which the wall board is located, the moisture or steam quickly penetrates the very thin film of coating material at these sharp corners 13 of the grooves and frequently enters the wall board causing it to expand adjacent to the grooves which causes the coating material to separate from the wall board. It is to overcome this difficulty and to produce a satisfactory and fool-proof product that applicant has produced the present invention.

In carrying out the invention as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, the grooves 15 which represent the mortar joints between individual tiles, are formed at properly spaced intervals and in two series at right angles to each other in order to produce the effect of individual tiles 16 of the desired size and shape divided by the grooves 15 representing the mortar joints between tiles.

The invention pertains entirely to the particular shape and construction of these grooves which may be formed by means of a specially designed cutting or grinding tool which produces a flat or slightly curved bottom wall 17, straight or slightly rounded side walls 18, and rounded corners 19, thus doing away with any sharp outer corners over which the paint or other coating is to be applied.

In finishing the surface of the wall board, a coating of paint or other coating material of any desired color is applied to the entire outer surface of the board as indicated at 20. The surface of this coating material may be buffed or otherwise polished to produce the desired finish and coating material or the like of a different color as indicated at 21 is applied within each of the grooves 15, the vertical walls 18 of the grooves confining the same within a definite area so as to produce the representation of a mortar joint of uniform width throughout its length.

It will be seen that the coating of paint or the like upon the rounded corners 19 at the sides of the grooves will be of substantially the same thickness as the coating 20 upon the flat surfaces of the wall board, thus thoroughly protecting these portions of the wall board against the attack of steam, moisture or water, thereby preventing breaking down or deterioration of the coating at these points.

I claim:—

1. A tile scored wall board comprising a flat surface wall board having grooves in its finish surface, each groove having a substantially flat bottom wall and substantially straight side walls terminating in rounded corners merging into the flat surface of the board, which permits a coat of coating material to be built in substantially uniform thickness upon said outer flat surface of the board and over said rounded corners in order to reduce or eliminate the penetration of moisture at these points, and permitting a stripe of coating material to be laid on the bottom wall of each groove and extending in the bottom of the groove to each side wall thereof.

2. A tile scored wall board comprising a flat surface wall board having integral square blocks on the face thereof, the blocks divided by grooves, each groove having rounded corners at its edges and curved surfaces extending from said rounded corners and merging into the flat surface of the blocks, which permits a coat of coating material to be built in substantially uniform thickness upon said flat finish surface of the board and over said rounded corners of the grooves.

3. A tile scored wall board comprising a flat surface wall board having grooves in its finish surface, each groove having a substantially flat bottom wall and substantially straight side walls terminating in rounded corners and curved surfaces extending from said rounded corners and merging into the flat surface of the board, which permits a coat of coating material to be built in substantially uniform thickness upon said outer flat surface of the board and over said rounded corners in order to reduce or eliminate the penetration of moisture at these points, and permitting a stripe of coating material to be laid on the bottom wall of each groove and extending in the bottom of the groove to each side wall thereof.

4. A tile scored wall board comprising a flat surface wall board having grooves in its finish surface, each groove having side walls terminating in rounded corners merging into the flat surface of the board which permits a coat of coating material to be built in substantially uniform thickness upon said flat finish surface of the board and over said rounded corners of the grooves.

HARRY E. MARSH.